

CAMP

Wednesday, October 3, 2007

P.5

Duxbury Clipper

Medford Student Dies After Collapsing at Camp Wing

By ADAM SWIFT

A 15-year-old Medford girl died after collapsing at Camp Wing on Wednesday evening.

Haley Morrill, a sophomore at Boston University Academy, was on a group retreat at the camp with about 70 other students from B.U. Academy when she collapsed while running across one of the fields at the camp at about 7 p.m.

"After dinner, two of the girls were transitioning between activities and running across the field when (Morrill) collapsed," said Deb Donohoe, executive director for Crossroads for Kids, the organization that runs Camp Wing.

After collapsing one time, Donohoe said, Morrill got up and then collapsed again.

A staff member went to Morrill and then called over another staffer to perform CPR when it was discovered that the girl was unconscious, Donohoe said.

"Our staff member admin-

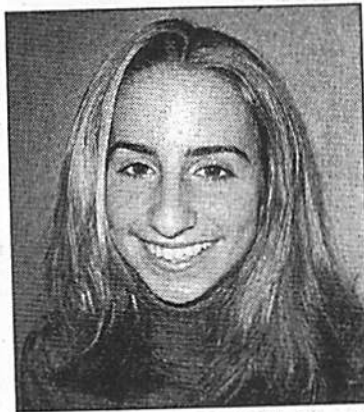


Photo courtesy of Medford Transcript

Camp Wing staff performed CPR on 15-year-old Haley Morrill of Medford. She later died at the hospital.

istered CPR until the first police officer arrived," she said. When EMTs arrived, Morrill was taken to Jordan Hospital, where she was joined by her parents.

"At the hospital, it seemed as if she was improving, but then she passed away," Donohoe said.

The cause of death was not known as of Friday afternoon, Donohoe said, but it was believed Morrill died of natural causes.

The B.U. Academy students were taking part in a teambuilding retreat and had rented Camp Wing for the occasion. Donohoe said Crossroads for Kids often provides staff members to help run programs when schools and other groups rent the facility.

Counselors were made available for the staffers at the camp, particularly those who were among the first to respond to Morrill's collapse.

"Obviously, this was a traumatic event, but the staff conducted themselves admirably," said Donohoe.

Hundreds of teachers, students and parents gathered at B.U. Academy on Thursday night to remember Morrill.

"We are deeply saddened by the passing of Haley Morrill," said B.U. Academy Head of School James Berkman. "Part of what is so hard about this is the mystery surrounding it."